

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A USB (Universal Serial Bus) unit control method, wherein, when coupling a plurality of USB units including a dual-role device acting as having a USB device function or a USB host function via a hub, said method determines the function of said dual-role device assumed when it is connected, records information indicating the function determined, and switches the function of said dual-role device from the USB host function to the USB device function or from the USB device function to the USB host function, and between a USB device and a USB host  
said method compares the information with a change in the state of D+ or D- of a USB data line to which said dual-role device is connected, and based on the comparison result, is capable of switching the function of said dual-role device from the USB host function to the USB device function or from the USB device function to the USB host function.

2. (Currently Amended) A USB unit control method according to claim 1, wherein, in case a dual-role device acting as a in accordance with the USB host function is connected to a hub where a USB host is connected, said method makes a switchover of the function of said dual-role device from a USB host to a to the USB device function, and reports said switchover to said USB host.

3. (Currently Amended) A USB unit control method according to claim 1, wherein, in case all dual-role devices connected to a hub each act [as]] in accordance with the USB device function devices, said method detects the Session Request Protocol from one of said dual-role devices and switches the function of the one of the dual-role devices device which has started the Session Request Protocol to [[a]] the USB host function.

4. (Currently Amended) A USB unit control method according to claim 1, wherein, in case a USB host is connected to a hub via a four-wire USB cable, said method makes a switchover of the function all dual-role devices connected to said hub each to act in accordance with the USB device function devices, and reports said switchover to said USB host.

5. (Original) A USB unit control method according to claim 1, wherein, in case a USB device is connected via a four-wire USB cable to a hub where a USB host is connected, said method reports connection of said USB device to said USB host.

6. (Currently Amended) A USB unit control method according to claim 1, wherein said method determines the function of said dual-role device assumed when it is connected based on the state of a port where said dual-role device a-USB-unit is connected or a change in the state of D+ or D- of a USB data line, and makes a switchover of the function of said dual-role device between a USB device and a USB host from the USB host function to the USB device function or from the USB device function to the USB host function.

7. (Currently Amended) A USB unit control method according to claim 1, wherein said method detects a specific request from a USB host connected to a hub and makes a switchover of the function of a plurality of dual-role devices from the USB host function to the USB device function or from the USB device function to the USB host function between a USB device and a USB host.

8. (Original) A USB unit controller, wherein said USB unit controller executes a USB unit control method according to any one of claims 1 through 7.

9. (Currently Amended) A USB unit controller according to claim 8, wherein said USB unit controller comprises

a hub for coupling a plurality of USB devices including a dual-role device acting as-a in accordance with the USB device function or [[a]] the USB host function,  
device control means for determining the function of said dual-role device assumed when it is connected, and

bus management means for making a switchover of the function of said [[a]] dual-role device connected to said hub from the USB host function to the USB device function or from the USB device function to the USB host function between a USB device and a USB host.

10. (Original) A USB unit controller according to claim 9, wherein said device control means comprises a function for performing communications between a USB host and a USB device, a function for performing data communications, and a function for detecting and starting the Session Request Protocol and executing the Host Negotiation Protocol.

11. (Currently Amended) A USB unit controller according to claim 9 or 10, wherein said USB unit controller comprises at least one receptacle for a USB cable defined in the OTG Supplementary Specifications and functions as a USB hub.

12. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium bearing a program, when executed, causing a computer to perform ~~wherein said program is a program for executing~~ a USB unit control method described in any one of claims 1 through 7.

13. (Cancelled)